

year apart” are substituted for the language about terms in section 102(c) of Reorganization Plan No. 7 of 1961 (46 App. U.S.C. 1111 note) and the Act of June 30, 1965 (Pub. L. 89-56, 79 Stat. 195), for clarity and to eliminate executed and obsolete language.

In subsection (c), section 104 of Reorganization Plan No. 7 of 1961 is omitted as executed.

Subsection (c)(1) is based on section 102(b) of Reorganization Plan No. 7 of 1961. The words “from time to time” are omitted as unnecessary.

Subsection (c)(2) is based on section 1 of Reorganization Plan No. 6 of 1949.

Subsection (c)(3) is based on section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 6 of 1949 and section 105(d) of Reorganization Plan No. 7 of 1961.

Subsection (c)(4) is based on section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 6 of 1949.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 113-281, § 403(a)(1), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term of each Commissioner is 5 years, with each term beginning one year apart. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy is appointed only for the unexpired term of the individual being succeeded. A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. When the term of a Commissioner ends, the Commissioner may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualified.”

Subsec. (b)(3) to (5). Pub. L. 113-281, § 403(a)(2), added pars. (3) and (4) and redesignated former par. (3) as (5).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 113-281, title IV, § 403(b), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 3056, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a)(1) [amending this section] does not apply with respect to a Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission appointed and confirmed by the Senate before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 18, 2014].”

§ 302. Quorum

A vacancy or vacancies in the membership of the Federal Maritime Commission do not impair the power of the Commission to execute its functions. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners serving on the Commission is required to dispose of any matter before the Commission.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
302	46 App.:1111 note.	Reorg. Plan No. 7 of 1961, eff. Aug. 12, 1961, §102(d), 75 Stat. 840; Pub. L. 105-258, title II, §202, Oct. 14, 1998, 112 Stat. 1915.

§ 303. Record of meetings and votes

The Federal Maritime Commission, through its secretary, shall keep a record of its meetings and the votes taken on any action, order, contract, or financial transaction of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
303	46 App.:1111(c) (related to records).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §201(c) (related to records), 49 Stat. 1986.

The words “true” and “yea-and-nay” are omitted as unnecessary.

§ 304. Delegation of authority

(a) DELEGATION.—The Federal Maritime Commission, by published order or regulation, may delegate to a division of the Commission, an individual Commissioner, an employee board, or an officer or employee of the Commission, any of its duties or powers, including those relating to hearing, determining, ordering, certifying, reporting, or otherwise acting on any matter. This subsection does not affect section 556(b) of title 5.

(b) REVIEW.—The Commission may review any action taken under a delegation of authority under subsection (a). The review may be taken on the Commission’s own initiative or on the petition of a party to or an intervenor in the action, within the time and in the manner prescribed by the Commission. The vote of a majority of the Commission, less one member, is sufficient to bring an action before the Commission for review.

(c) DEEMED ACTION OF COMMISSION.—If the Commission declines review, or if review is not sought, within the time prescribed under subsection (b), the action taken under the delegation of authority is deemed to be the action of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
304	46 App.:1111 note.	Reorg. Plan No. 7 of 1961, eff. Aug. 12, 1961, §105(a)-(c), 75 Stat. 841.

§ 305. Regulations

The Federal Maritime Commission may prescribe regulations to carry out its duties and powers.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
305	46 App.:1111(c) (related to rules and regulations). 46 App.:1716.	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §201(c) (related to rules and regulations), 49 Stat. 1986. Pub. L. 98-237, §17, Mar. 20, 1984, 98 Stat. 84.

The words “to carry out its duties and powers” are substituted for “in regard to its procedure and the conduct of its business” in 46 App. U.S.C. 1111(c) and “to carry out this chapter” in 46 App. U.S.C. 1716(a) for consistency in the revised title. The text of 46 App. U.S.C. 1716(b) is omitted as executed and obsolete.

§ 306. Annual report

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1 of each year, the Federal Maritime Commission shall submit a report to Congress. The report shall include the results of its investigations, a summary of its transactions, the purposes for which all of its expenditures were made, and any recommendations for legislation.

(b) REPORT ON FOREIGN LAWS AND PRACTICES.—The Commission shall include in its annual report to Congress—

(1) a list of the 20 foreign countries that generated the largest volume of oceanborne liner cargo for the most recent calendar year in bilateral trade with the United States;

(2) an analysis of conditions described in section 42302(a) of this title being investigated or found to exist in foreign countries;

(3) any actions being taken by the Commission to offset those conditions;

(4) any recommendations for additional legislation to offset those conditions; and

(5) a list of petitions filed under section 42302(b) of this title that the Commission rejected and the reasons for each rejection.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
306(a)	46 App.:1118 (related to Commission).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §208 (related to Commission), 49 Stat. 1988; Pub. L. 94-273, §36, Apr. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 380; Pub. L. 97-31, §12(65), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 159.
306(b)	46 App.:1710a(g).	Pub. L. 100-418, title X, §10002(g), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1572.

In subsection (a), the words “a statement of all receipts under this chapter” are omitted as inapplicable to the Commission.

§ 307. Expenditures

The Federal Maritime Commission may make such expenditures as are necessary in the performance of its functions from funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it, which appropriations are authorized.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1490.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
307	46 App.:1111(d) (related to Commission).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title II, §201(d) (related to Commission), 49 Stat. 1986; Pub. L. 97-31, §12(58)(B), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 158.

The words “by this chapter”, “after June 29, 1936”, and “further” are omitted as unnecessary.

CHAPTER 5—OTHER GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 501. Waiver of navigation and vessel-inspection laws.
- 502. Cargo exempt from forfeiture.
- 503. Notice of seizure.
- 504. Remission of fees and penalties.
- 505. Penalty for violating regulation or order.

§ 501. Waiver of navigation and vessel-inspection laws

(a) ON REQUEST OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—On request of the Secretary of Defense, the head of an agency responsible for the administration of the navigation or vessel-inspection laws shall waive compliance with those laws to the extent the Secretary considers necessary in the interest of national defense.

(b) BY HEAD OF AGENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—When the head of an agency responsible for the administration of the navigation or vessel-inspection laws considers it necessary in the interest of national defense, the individual, following a determination by the Maritime Administrator, acting in the Administrator’s capacity as Director, National Shipping Authority, of the non-availability of qualified United States flag capacity to meet national defense requirements, may waive compliance with those laws to the extent, in the manner, and on the terms the individual, in consultation with the Administrator, acting in that capacity, prescribes.

(2) DETERMINATIONS.—The Maritime Administrator shall—

(A) for each determination referred to in paragraph (1), identify any actions that could be taken to enable qualified United States flag capacity to meet national defense requirements;

(B) provide notice of each such determination to the Secretary of Transportation and the head of the agency referred to in paragraph (1) for which the determination is made; and

(C) publish each such determination on the Internet Web site of the Department of Transportation not later than 48 hours after notice of the determination is provided to the Secretary of Transportation.

(3) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency referred to in paragraph (1) shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate—

- (i) of any request for a waiver of the navigation or vessel-inspection laws under this section not later than 48 hours after receiving such a request; and
- (ii) of the issuance of any such waiver not later than 48 hours after such issuance.

(B) CONTENTS.—Such head of an agency shall include in each notification under subparagraph (A)(ii) an explanation of—

- (i) the reasons the waiver is necessary; and
- (ii) the reasons actions referred to in paragraph (2)(A) are not feasible.

(c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority granted by this section shall terminate at such time as the Congress by concurrent resolution or the President may designate.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §4, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1490; Pub. L. 110-417, div. C, title XXXV, §3510, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4769; Pub. L. 112-213, title III, §301, Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1562; Pub. L. 112-239, div. C, title XXXV, §3517(a)(2), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2229.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
501	46 App.:3 note prec.	Dec. 27, 1950, ch. 1155, §§1, 2, 64 Stat. 1120.

In subsection (b), the words “When the head of an agency . . . considers it necessary” are substituted for